

JUL 13 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Beard et al.

Examiner: Wallerson, Mark E.

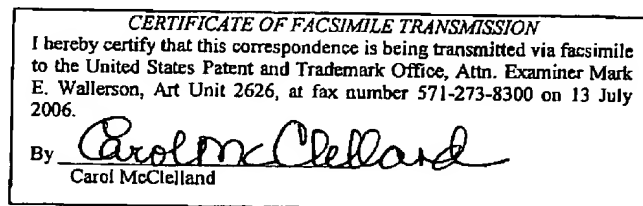
Serial No.: 09/456,652

Group Art Unit: 2626

Filed: 08 December 1999

Docket No.: LE9-99-111

Title: Self-Describing Device Interface System

**Reply To Final Office Action and  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE)**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**Introductory Comments**

This response is in reply to the Final Office Action of 27 April 2006 and is being filed together with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). As applicants are filing this amendment within the three month shortened statutory period, applicants believe that no extension of time fee is required. However, applicants conditionally petition for an extension of time to provide for the possibility that the need for such a petition was inadvertently overlooked. Accordingly, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2121 for any required fee, or for any deficiency in the enclosed fee.

The applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and request reexamination and reconsideration of the subject application in view of the following:

- Amendments to the Claims, beginning on Page 2 of this paper; and
- Remarks, beginning on Page 8 of this paper.